

There's a sucker born every minute. Audiences blog about *Sucker Punch*.

by [Chuck Kleinhans](#)

The new Zach Snyder action film, *Sucker Punch*, premiered in the US on March 25, 2011. As part of an ongoing interest in the more ephemeral aspects of New Media,[1] [\[open endnotes in new window\]](#) I'm writing here (mostly) about those who blogged about it on the microblogging service Tumblr. I've arranged this presentation of what I found in an outline frame, figuring that most readers would just pick and choose as they went through it. I suggest you skip to the end section and read a few representative entries and then return here. Rather than an elegant summary essay, this is a data-heavy compilation. At the end I present my own selection from the Tumblr posts: I've chosen them so you don't have to.



What I learned. Rather than documenting a traditional fan culture, most *Sucker Punch* blogging produced two clusters of discussion which go mostly unnoticed by those who follow fan cultures: One is a hashing out of a basic question that comes up in discussions of media using female warriors: empowering or sexist? In general, this discussion gets no further than the familiar terms already laid out in the critical literature on fighting females. The other is mention of the film as simply a part of mundane communication life, and is unexceptional, and therefore of little interest to those who seek a fan culture but which is of interest if instead we are looking at how people use the manifold forms of new media.

Sucker Punch, the movie

Sucker Punch is director Zach Snyder's fifth feature. His 2004 debut, *Dawn of the Dead*, was a remake of the horror classic. 2006's *300* received attention for its extreme digital manipulation of action sequences and digital remodeling of actors, a trend continued in the graphic novel adaptation *Watchmen*, 2009. *Legend of the Guardians: The Owls of Ga'hoole*, 2010, based on children's novels, was an all animation flop. *Sucker Punch* was Snyder's first original work based on his own collaborative screenplay. His next film is a reboot of the Superman franchise, *Man of Steel*.

1. the film text

Wikipedia provides an excellent plot summary:

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sucker_Punch_\(film\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sucker_Punch_(film))

In brief, the film is a kick-ass action piece with four major fantasy action sequences that resemble well-known first-person shooter video games and recycled martial action film scenes. The fighters are a team of young women, incarcerated in a mental hospital that transforms into another level of a fantasy bordello, and then into the action fantasies. The critic/reviewer consensus was that it was pretty bad, with almost all of them noting the same problems. Snyder is known for his CGI enhanced films such as *300*, continued here, and has a notable, even auteurist, visual style.



2. the theatrical event

I've been writing on and collecting examples of cinematic women warriors for some time (especially Asian film examples), so viewing *Sucker Punch* was on the agenda. Plus it was showing at the new IMAX screen in town (Eugene Oregon) at a \$3 per person upcharge. We actually got a little "gee whiz" intro to IMAX by the projectionist before the IMAX showoff reel, the previews, and finally the feature. Also, an usher gave everyone a candy sucker with a wrapper that had the "*Sucker Punch*" logo on it.



3. the Blu-Ray release

The film's theatrical release was rated PG-13. To get that rating the film was cut down by 17+ minutes. The missing portion is restored in the Blu-Ray package (about \$25), which includes a Blu-Ray of the theatrical version, and a code for downloading a

digital copy of the theatrical version to your computer/mobile device.

Tumblr, the microblog

A few words about Tumblr. [<http://www.tumblr.com/>]

Tumblr, a fast-growing microblogging service, hosts over 24M blogs (16,024,824 on 1 April 2011; 24,769,209 on 31 July 2011). Like Twitter, it promotes sending/posting short single item entries: images, text, sound files, etc. While Twitter features very short text messages, Tumblr highlights images. You can post images (or sound files, etc.) up to 10 MB per post. The main features are that it's free, you can customize it endlessly, it works on browsers, phones, email, etc., and it's extremely fast for downloading images. It also highlights "reblogging" which allows/encourages users to add anything they see on someone else's blog to theirs, giving it a high capacity for viral distribution. On its own, and with some useful apps, users can connect their Tumblog with their Twitter and Facebook accounts, so anything they send on the other platforms can also be posted on Tumblr. You can even email your posts to Tumblr or phone it in: leave a voicemail that will be posted on your site.

I first became interested when I found it was heavily used by artists, photographers, designers, fashion professionals, and other visual artists for portfolio presentation (especially students and recent graduates). It is self-promotingly "hip" — e.g., it was mentioned on *Portlandia* as a great time-waster. It is also (unevenly) international. "Of course" it has a lot of porn, but somewhat surprisingly it tends to customize those items: thus there's a lot of fancy euro-trash elegant b&w imagery, or focus on fairly narrow and predictable topics (such as anal, facials, self-shot, etc.), as well as "this is my taste/fetish" — and (apparently) a lot of blogs by females. All of this is heavily NSFW (Not Safe For Work). Much of it consists of reblogged material from Tumblr blogs. Thus, some people's blogs are almost entirely images they found while browsing other Tumblr blogs and chose to reblog on their own site (which are then "liked" or reblogged by others) allowing an often long trail of who referenced something since it was originally posted somewhere on Tumblr. Following these interlinked trails, one can find Tumblogs with curious or "original" combos of appropriated and reprocessed material: e.g. kittens, Hello Kitty, pastries, sex, anime. Thus browsing for cute kitten pix may quickly lead you to that *and* hardcore porn.

After seeing the theatrical film on its opening weekend, and reading some negative critical reviews, I was interested in looking for reactions in the fan discussion. Tumblr is especially useful for this in terms of ease of search. This is especially so in contrast to, say, Blogger, which has no functioning search ability, as far as I can tell.

I did a simple search on Tumblr using their search feature, entering "sucker punch" which brought up lots of material, especially reblogs of the posters for the film or downloads of music from the film, and links to the official trailer and the first 6 minutes of the film (released right at its opening wide to stimulate interest). From the first weekend on, some people were just posting (while others were asking for) pirate streaming sites that would allow you to watch an illegal download.

Sample: Amber (Jaimie Chung) official site poster



A certain number of links to reviews and people working with the visual materials of the film were alternatively clever or interesting. Usually these were GIFs of key moments, but they included fan art, and new ads or posters which seem like student demonstrations of their illustration skills. Sample:



One of the best of the visual reworkings was this Disney mash-up on YouTube:
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vQYKfw4fBhM&feature=player_embedded

Fan cultures

While audience studies have been a longstanding and important part of broadcast media studies, usually quantitative work because radio and TV had to be precise about audience numbers and demographics to be able to charge for advertising. Film lagged behind. Only with the change from theatrical-centered release to a greater awareness of multiple platforms has film begun to catch up. More qualitative and cultural analysis of audiences appeared. Some of this work follows in the traditions of

reception studies, reader studies, and ethnographic work.

Most of the work that's been done on fan culture in media studies has concentrated on cultural products and processes that actually have some "legs." They exist in various forms over time, over different mediated forms, and can thus build self-conscious and devoted audiences. We move through comics, graphic novels, radio, television, film platforms following the same heroic characters in new adventures with various versions, editions, nuances: Superman, or Batman or Spiderman. Historically they appear in comic books, live action and animated TV series, feature films, and even theme park and Broadway versions. Franchises develop such as *Star Wars*, extending all the way to toys and ComiCon cosplay. Thus *Star Trek* produces both a basic fan base, first on TV, and then in reruns and films, and also, over time, an ironic fan subculture of slash fiction in which fans reappropriate the characters for pornographic fantasy tales. And for other narrative tropes, such as *Buffy The Vampire Slayer*, the episodic serial allows audiences to join up at different developments in the larger narrative, or follow spin-offs, or remakes.

There's been a rich development of critical work on fan cultures, largely along the lines of how fans can and do use mass culture materials and refashion it to their own purposes. Two now-classic studies can represent this direction. Henry Jenkins' *Textual Poachers: Television Fans and Participatory Culture* (1992) provides an expansive view of how fans reappropriate mass culture texts for their own purposes. Constance Penley's *NASA/TREK: Popular Science and Sex in America* (1997) looks at space travel in the popular imagination and fans who write porno-romantic fiction based on Star Trek fantasies from a feminist perspective. Both writers use an ethnographic approach to clarify the subcultural basis for the fans' activities. A recent anthology expands the field by discussing music, celebrity, and many other fan cultures: *Fandom: Identities and Communities in a Mediated World*, ed. Jonathan Gray, Cornel Dandvoss, and C. Lee Harrington; it has an excellent bibliography for further research.

What I'm looking at here, however, is different. *Sucker Punch* is a one-off, and while it collected some "fans" in the sense of people who responded favorably to it, writing about that, and validating it as a piece of art, it just doesn't seem to have the cult potential of say, *The Big Lebowski*. Some bloggers mention they think the costumes are nifty, particularly the schoolgirl sailor outfit of the Baby Doll character. But the film itself ends with the key female characters dead. No prequel or sequel seems possible.

Basically what I was looking at (not for) was not a unified or self-aware fan culture, but rather a more atomistic scattering of individuals who responded favorably and strongly to the film, mixed with people who were hostile or indifferent. *Sucker Punch* was not being used to develop an alternative culture, appropriating from a mass culture text or phenomenon, and turning it to the social ends of a different group of people. The discourse did overlap with some more clearly fan formations: particularly around the central actor, Emily Browning (b. 1988), who has a following based on her earlier roles [Australian TV, *Lemony Snicket's A Series of Unfortunate Events* (2004) *The Uninvited* (2009)] and ongoing celebrity status (red carpet appearances, some fashion shoots, etc.). U.S. actor Vanessa Hudgens also has a fan base, particularly from her role in the *High School Musical* films. Abby Cornish has a following from her performances in Australian films. Jena Malone and Jaime Chung

are also known from previous roles.

Microblogging and utter banality

I haven't ever really tried to follow fan discourse about a specific film (though I've read a lot of summaries about fan cultures). I have looked extensively at some fan sites for details, such as the intertextual references in *Kill Bill* as detailed by fanboys. But I was curious about what was reported as an audience split interpretation regarding women (empowering/oppressive), and so I quickly looked at some blog postings on Tumblr.com.

What I hadn't been prepared for was the utter banality of some of the posts: e.g., a thirteen year old boy saying that it was Spring Break and he was really bored and hoped that he could see the film with his friends, but one was not yet 13, and it was PG-13, and besides he didn't know if his mom would let him see the film, and most of all, he had to have his mom drive him to the mall, and he didn't know when that could be scheduled.

I wasn't much interested in the (apparent) male bloggers who liked the film, but there was a split among the (seemingly young--teen to twenty something) (apparent) females: sexist or empowering?[2] I started to collect some comments on the U.S. opening date, March 25, then returned five days later (March 30) to collect a lot more. In between, I read a couple of interesting posts about fan culture by Jeff Sconce on his blog Ludic Despair [<http://www.ludicdespair.blogspot.com/>]. Jeff analyzed an episode of the sitcom *Community* for its self-reflexive critique of its own fan culture, and then he was trashed on another site for mocking the fans and he returned to write about that. These two posts — “Community to Fans: Get a “Meta” Life,” and “Flamed by Metafilterians” — show Jeff's wit, but also that a fan culture operates as a developed group phenomenon.

I returned to Tumblr on April 6 to find several fans now had their own dedicated blogs to the film (usually featuring clips from the promo reels, trailer, and, days before the theatrical release, the studio released the first 6 minutes online as a teaser).

Sucker Fucking Punch

<http://suckerfuckingpunch.tumblr.com/>

FYEAHSUCKERPUNCH

<http://fyeahsuckerpunch.tumblr.com/>

You Will Be Unprepared

<http://fuckyeah-suckerpunch.tumblr.com/>

Reality Is A Prison

<http://suckerpunchladies.tumblr.com/>

Emily Browning (heart)

<http://fuckyeahemilybrowning.tumblr.com/>

Fuck Yeah Sweet Rocket Doll

<http://fuckyeahsweetrocketdoll.tumblr.com/>

[With each of these sites, since they post by most recent item and then regress, there's a useful Tumblr feature, Archive, that lets you bring up thumbnails of past items and move through the historical regression quickly.]

Following the usual studio release protocol, Warner's put up a pretty elaborate web site with lots of "extras."

<http://suckerpunchmovie.warnerbros.com/dvd/index2.html>

The studio had done a rather typical long promo build for the film by releasing "behind the scenes" footage of the actors going through martial and acrobatic training for their roles, and footage of them in blue screen live action for the later compositing of animation backgrounds. So there had been a certain calculated buzz about the film and the usual entertainment press interviews leading up to and during the theatrical release. The London premiere (April 1) became the showcase for the actors, their gowns, the press photography, etc.

The earliest blog posts were basically just mentions of the film in narcissistic personal blogs, which often seemed like Facebook reports, about anticipation of seeing the film, reactions after just having seen it, etc. A smaller number of folks had blogs that they presented as their film review/criticism blog. Thus what I sampled was culled not from a self oriented and motivated fandom (as was typically the case in studies of Buffy or Xena or Harry Potter fans in the past who had consciously sought out communities) but was artificially created by me from Tumblr's search feature grazing through tags of all of Tumblr's (then) 16M + sites.

Some people posted their own visual interpretations of the film (their poster, their sketchbook after viewing, their attempt to duplicate the eye makeup of one of the characters (enormous false eyelashes are part of the film's visual signature), photos of cosplay re-enactors at a comic book convention, etc. Some referenced positive and negative reviews of the film on other sites, so you could quickly get a wide range of opinions about the film.

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Fan visuals

Many of the fan visuals struck me as artists/illustrators trying out their skill and abilities, using the film as a starting point. In this sense it is a form of professional or pre-professional training. The very best entry along those lines was this one on make-up.

hellokittynightmare.tumblr.com:

Sucker Punched

I went to see Sucker Punch on Monday night because we had sweet coups (coupons, obvi) and got to pay as if it was a Tuesday (5\$ movies heeee yes).

So everyone's being a real jerk and hating on this movie (honestly because I think people like to jump on bandwagons) but I really liked it! And above all I really loved the makeup.

Everyone's makeup was pretty over the top except for Baby Doll's, which looked to me like a beautiful 60s inspired everyday look so I've been rocking it ever since.

I hoped to find a really good Youtube tutorial to post but they were all shitty, most of which showing a grey smoked out eye which is not what's going on. I found a good text tutorial though.

Apply a sheer, shimmery beige or silver eyeshadow to your eyelid and sweep a little bit of a darker beige or grey in the creases of your eyelids. The darker color should be kept light – its purpose is simply to add depth to the eye. Apply a small amount of a sheer white or silver right above and around your tear ducts. This will brighten the eyes.

Line your upper eyelids with a black liquid eyeliner.

After curling and coating your eyelashes with mascara, apply one set of faux eyelashes. Blend them in by trimming them (before you apply them) to fit your eye better. Curl them and apply another light coat of mascara.

Sweep a light blush upwards on the apples of your cheeks for a little warmth.

Apply a nude lipstick or lip gloss for a finishing touch

For step one, the “crease” is literally the part on your eyelid right at the top of your eyeball when your eye is closed, and all you need to do is go over that line with some grey eyeshadow and then go over it with a clean blending brush to smooth out the harsh line. Super simple.

The blush looks like a rosy pink to me, like MAC's “well dressed” for example and the lipstick is nude, but more on the peachy side, like my beloved “Impressionable” lipstick by MAC or Rimmel's “Airy fairy”.

Hope you guys are inspired now too!

p.s. here's a tutorial for another character, Amber.

<http://www.youtube.com/user/frmheadtotoe> - p/u/o/3bDZjyvpCbo

P.P.S.!!! I just wanted to tell you guys (from Montreal) that those awesome Garnier eyerollers are 20% off at Pharmaprix starting today. Do I look out for you guys or

what?

<http://bagofsugar.tumblr.com/>



Pictured is Emily Browning as “Babydoll” from *Sucker Punch*. I found the makeup artist who did Babydoll’s makeup. Her name is Rosalina Da Silva. Here’s a picture of the facial chart with the products that were used listed.



FACIAL CHART

N2

For Babydoll Sleeping
Chambers
Under Tints/Camouflage Creme:

Foundation:

Concealer: Kevyn Aulin

SV 02

Derma color palette # 3

Facial Powder:

Tan Powder

Cheek Colors:

Shu Uemura Red #14

MAC - Pink Flurry

Lip Protector:

MAC Lip Conditioner

Lip Liner:

No Liner

Lip Color:

Shiseido BE #109

Mascara:

Lancome

Finishing Touches:

ICE airbrushed
face & Body

Lashes #105

Eyeshadow:
(Base Color, Contour, Highlight,
Duster, Eyeliner)

A

B MAC Kid - top & bottom

C MAC Frostbite under lashes

D

E



Eyebrow Definition:

Wax clear

Toes - MAC - Glossamer

Makeup designed by:

You can check out her blog at www.amorebeautifulmakeup.com

Here's the link to the blog post on Babydoll's makeup:

[http://www.amorebeautifulmakeup.com/
rosalina-da-silva/sucker-punch-babydoll/](http://www.amorebeautifulmakeup.com/rosalina-da-silva/sucker-punch-babydoll/)

Here's another link for a more specific tutorial:

[http://makeupforlife.net/2011/04/makeup-tutorial-how-to-get-
babydolls-makeup-look-from-sucker-punch.html](http://makeupforlife.net/2011/04/makeup-tutorial-how-to-get-babydolls-makeup-look-from-sucker-punch.html)

I haven't tried the look yet but im hoping in the near future to. Soooooon. It looks like i have to get some fake lashes to build on.



[posted with this caption]

A friend of mine made this, solely out of duct tape, for another friend of mine for her birthday. It's about 2 feet in height and 1 foot in length.

Female warriors

Discussions of fighting women in film invariably end up with opposed views: the image is an empowering vision of female agency and skill vs. the depiction is a sexist male fantasy that is oppressive to women. The discussion examples can range from referencing the ancient Amazons to Joan of Arc, from Wonder Woman to *Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon*. *Sucker Punch* presents the ambiguity very clearly in the fantasy battle sequences: the women are dressed in variants of micro skirts with fishnet or black thigh high sheer stockings while carrying impressive weapons. For Baby Doll the outfit is a Sailor Moon style schoolgirl outfit with a bare abdomen and Japanese samurai sword and automatic pistol. Thus schoolgirl “innocence” and

vulnerability is welded to aggressive martial arts skills.

There's no absolute answer to the contradictory image because the ambiguity is precisely what makes it engaging and effective. Any individual response can be skewed to either the exploitation or empowering interpretation. And in this sense no reading is "wrong," but is only accurate for that reader and different individuals will have different takes on it. But at the same time, the argument tends to take place with individual bloggers making arguments by lumping together their opponents, or simplifying the other to one motive. Thus beyond the pleasure of assertion of one's views, there's little analytical power here.

Seeing this as precisely a contradiction that cannot be resolved and which produces a productive (for capital) ambiguity can give us more of a purchase on the matter. The female fighting force is both attractive/alluring in terms of "the male gaze" (several apparent middle school or high school bloggers consciously use this term which has passed into such common usage in 35 years), and empowering and expressive of female agency. As such, it can reach the largest possible audience: fan boys and postfeminists, and of course all those who have mixed reactions themselves to the action figure.

Visuals and music

The ordinary bloggers did some posting of visuals, almost all of them taken from the official website, or slightly reprocessed from them. For example, single framegrabs from the film, usually with the dialogue at that point inserted as English language subtitles; or short GIF animations drawn from the studio materials and sometimes processed. Various YouTube clips were also available.

Music from the soundtrack (available on an album, of course) was also posted often with just a gushy comment. I didn't find any considered or smart discussion of how the soundtrack actually worked as a film aesthetic element. But there wasn't any substantial visual analysis of the film, although the cinematography, production design, editing and CGI processing was all highly accomplished. (That's a judgment about its professional accomplishment, not about the film's overall aesthetic value.)

Words to live by

One of the repeated gestures of those blogging about the film was to quote one of the various bits of dialogue in the film. (An assortment:
<http://www.imdb.com/title/tt0978764/quotes>)

These seemed to be especially meaningful or portentous to the Tumblogger. E.g.: "If you don't stand for something, you'll fall for anything. –Wiseman" [Wiseman, played by Scott Glenn, is a character in the fantasy action sections who give the gals their mission.] Now personally I find that trite and laughable. But I also remember that when I was a tween and teen I did have a love for these kind of little aphorisms and short motivational slogans. I wrote them down when I came across them, and kept them for many years. I can just ignore these things as "wisdom" (another example from Wiseman: "Don't ever write a check with your mouth you can't cash with your

ass.”).[3] [[open endnotes in new page](#)] But I can see that for others they might seem especially meaningful as part of the movie or as something that might be useful for your life.

Adolescents are, after all, in the process of trying to reconcile present reality (including their own physical and cognitive and moral development) with hopes and anxieties. Just as it’s frequently noticed that teens often have an intensified concern for spirituality (of all kinds: orthodox religion, spiritualism, exotic and outlaw beliefs), the slogan like adherence to a “simple” answer is desirable. I myself formally joined the church my parents had been sending me to for Sunday School when I was about 14; they attended, but hadn’t joined. I joined with a then-passionate belief.

Using *Sucker Punch*

While there were a few dedicated fan blog sites (referenced above), most of the mentions of *Sucker Punch* on Tumblr involved a one time posting, and often that was in passing. Even the dedicated fan blogs seemed to fade over time: one seemed to have a new post every other week after two months, and then nothing after mid-June. And there’s always a question if the bloggers are genuine fans or perhaps corporate beards.

What the raw data shows is that people connect to *Sucker Punch* with vastly different degrees of intensity. Some of the most enthusiastic bloggers were your typical fanboy. Some of the most negative haters were feminists. The strongest of hostile responses were often from viewers who had a strong abreaction to the fundamental story frame of rape, child rape, trafficking, forced incarceration in a mental institution, and lobotomy. Since *Sucker Punch* is a one-off, you didn’t have the negative reaction that some fans had to Snyder’s versions of *Watchmen* and *Dawn of the Dead* for not matching the “original.”

Most comments on Tumblr amounted to small talk (aka phatic communication; details on Wikipedia). Television and film comments are generally recognized as appropriate topics for small talk. From the outside, one could say that the Tumblr casual references about *Sucker Punch* fall in a similar pattern to another example from social networking:

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Twitter>:

Tweet contents

San Antonio-based market-research firm [Pear Analytics](#) analyzed 2,000 tweets (originating from the US and in English) over a two-week period in August 2009 from 11:00 AM to 5:00 PM (CST) and separated them into six categories:[59]

[Pointless babble](#) – 40%

Conversational – 38%

Pass-along value – 9%

Self-promotion – 6%

Spam – 4%

News – 4%[59]

Social networking researcher Danah Boyd responded to the Pear Analytics survey by arguing that what the Pear researchers labelled

"pointless babble" is better characterized as "[social grooming](#)" and/or "peripheral awareness" (which she explains as persons "want[ing] to know what the people around them are thinking and doing and feeling, even when co-presence isn't viable").

So, one of my conclusions is that *Sucker Punch* did not generate a full fledged fan culture, and because the film was pretty much a flop (especially in the U.S., earning back its cost only by including international box office), it provides a discrete enough and efficient sample of the kind of discourse we see about most mass market entertainment films.

Critical controversies

One feature of Tumblr's blogging discourse allows for an expanded critical analysis. Because in making an argument for or against an interpretation of the film bloggers sometimes cite other sources, which can be hotlinked if online, anyone following the discussion can find some otherwise often overlooked or unknown articles. It's easy to see a range of critical opinion on any popular film by using the "external reviews" link of IMDb.com: but that takes you to regular film review sites. It's also possible to look at the discussion boards on a film in IMDb.com or on Amazon.com for the DVD, say, to find more pedestrian reviews. But given the crowdsourcing type of activity possible on Tumblr, otherwise obscure sites can come to the fore for notice. For example:

<http://queerbites.blogspot.com/2011/07/movie-review-sucker-punch-queer-subtext.html>

<http://www.avaadore.com/post/4224470105/a-feminist-defense-of-sucker-punch>

<http://blog.moviefone.com/2011/03/28/faux-feminism-in-sucker-punch/>

<http://guttervomit.com/2011/03/28/sucker-punched-by-zack-snyder-with-spoilers/>

<http://worddoodling.wordpress.com/2011/03/28/why-sucker-punch-is-smarter-than-you-think/>

<http://cleverwittystatement.tumblr.com/post/6091239856/a-summary-of-the-movie-sucker-punch>

Interview with the director

<http://www.filmchoolrejects.com/features/interview-zack-snyder-on-the%20-sexuality-and-world-of-sucker-punch.php>

http://www.slashfilm.com/defense-sucker-punch-uncovering-method-zack-snyders-madness/?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+slashfilm+%28%2FFilm%29

<http://scottalanmendelson.blogspot.com/2011/03/mpaa-thinks-child-rape-is-more.html>

Is there a lesson here?

A. The most useful and important thing I learned from reading comments on *Sucker Punch* is that you can use *inception* as a verb:

Inception v.t. (from *Inception*, movie, 2009) to suddenly change something to another level of reality or consciousness.

Example: When she starts dancing in the brothel scene, Baby Doll inceptions herself into the World War One steampunk zombie trench warfare.

B. It is possible to interpret the film through the system offered by occult and Illuminati systems:

<http://vigilantcitizen.com/moviesandtv/sucker-punch-or-how-to-make-monarch-mind-control-sexy-7-2/>

C. As a topic for further research, I'd suggest looking at gendered differences in the youth audience and relating that to research over the past decade on the use of phones and other social media as part of personality formation and social bonding. It seems that blogging is proportionately stronger and more active among women (which fits with earlier research demonstrating that, for example, while men may take most of the family photos/videos, women are the ones who make the family album, or edit and present the home movies). Research on female teen maturation supports the idea that women are more verbal, and use verbal communication (be that voice or text) as an important part of creating themselves individually and socially. Teen guys, in contrast, tend to deploy a drastically smaller number of words each day in the course of their activities. If we want to understand how feature films fit in with New Media lives, additional study here could be very important.

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JUMP CUT

A REVIEW OF CONTEMPORARY MEDIA

The raw data

I've edited what follows for contrast and some representativeness. You can find the original in context of the blog by searching the blogger's name on Tumblr.com.

ameliadoyle:

School girl uniform + samurai sword + Emily = HOTNESS!

theblackswanqueen:

If/When I finish my final draft paper that's due tomorrow, I'll be watching Sucker Punch. I've heard a lot of bad reviews, but I want to see it for myself.

leah-face:

[quoting from press on the film]

"I'm hoping this could kind of start a trend maybe, hopefully, of just — not just, you know, 'girls with guns,' but smart, cool, interesting, layered characters — with guns," Emily Browning

A fan of anime and Japanese pop culture, Browning was well aware of the influences scattered throughout the movie. "When I first put the costume on I remember I did, you know, the opening of Sailor Moon," Browning said, striking a perfect Sailor Moon pose.

<——Amaaaaaazing!

snowxbo:

[quoting a line/speech/dialogue in the film—a common gesture, made easy by the reblogging feature]

"If you don't stand for something, you'll fall for anything."

— Wiseman from Sucker Punch

hermyoohnee:

SUCKER PUNCH WAS SO AWESOME.

There was so much about that movie that I loved. The music. The direction. The action. The concept. The costumes. The eye makeup. Ohhh the eye makeup. I will now wind down by watching the musical episode of Grey's Anatomy, even though I do not even watch the show, because it looks awesome.

raeruccio:

[Another favorite quote]

"Who is it that chooses our steps in the dance? Who drives us mad? Lashes us with whips and crowns us with victory when we survive the impossible? Who is it? That does all these things? Who honors those we love for the very life we live? Who sends monsters to kill us? and at the same time sings that we'll never die? Who teaches us

what's real, and how to laugh at lies? Who decides why we live and what we'll die to defend? Who chains us, and who holds the key that can set us free?... It's you. You have all the weapons you need...now fight."

iwillbattle:

Sucker Punch

Screw the critics. This film rocked. I had a smile pretty much all the way through, but it was also chock full of female empowerment and badass fight scenes, which were not necessarily one and the same. Not the best film ever, but a fantastic cinematic experience, and one that will leave you talking about the messages it put forward once you leave the cinema rather than just the action.

thinkingwrite:

Megacon in Florida

Aweee cant wait for the Phoenix Comicon and girl dressed up like this mmmmmm Cosplay at its finest.

lesbianparadise:

I watched Sucker Punch this afternoon. Abbie Cornish is now my latest celeb crush.

strawberrybitch:

I saw Suckerpunch today.

I felt a bit disappointed with it, but at the same time, I did kind of like it.

It was very clearly a "fanservice" type of movie. A group of hot girls with weapons running around in revealing outfits and kicking robot/zombie/dragon ass.

The storyline itself was rather lacking, details were left out that left me wondering just how developed this movie actually was... it had so many holes all over the place. The visual effects were top-notch, with explosions and shit everywhere. But the fight scenes weren't what I expected... They were pretty boring and repetitive, since they didn't really have any special moves or anything really particularly impressive. Most of the moves were **TOTALLY AND UTTERLY PHYSICALLY IMPOSSIBLE**, so I expected that if they were going to ignore the laws of physics, that they would have some really fucking amazing shit in those fight scenes. But they didn't, it was just lots of flipping and trigger-happy girls.

So for a lot of reasons, it wasn't as good as I'd hoped it would be.

But at the same time, I found it weirdly interesting... Maybe it was the outfits. They all had really awesome costumes, I'd cosplay any of them.

lady-cousland:

Top 20 Strong Female Characters

Baby Doll

"I lost everyone I loved. And then they locked me away. With no where to hide from the pain."

[Potential Spoilers Below]

Even without seeing the movie Sucker Punch, you probably already know that Baby Doll (played by Emily Browning), was a hot piece of ass.

But when I watched this movie, I felt her pain. She was abused by her stepfather, and accidentally killed her sister while trying to protect her. This sent her into a delusional depression. But Baby Doll had to escape her own mind. She had to get out of this depression.

So she invents her own world. While things are happening in this pretend world of

hers, she is also going through the real world. There are still consequences to her actions. But even in her own world, she must dive into yet another fantasy to fight her fears.

Although she puts herself in this depression, she's strong. She has a will to escape. And at the end, she sacrifices herself for her friend. Because in the end, this story wasn't about her. It was about her giving her life so another could start a new one.

youjumpsoijump:

My Sucker Punch UK Premiere experience.

My Sucker Punch UK Premiere experience in two words was: a blur.

It is gonna be plainly, and totally cheesy for me to say, but it was THE best day of my life <3

I went with my twin sister Roma and my little sister. We live two hours away from London so we travelled from where we live at 10:00am to get to London by 12. Once we got there, they already had the stage out and a ton of vans causing chaos and none of the barriers were up, so we decided to go to Burger King, eat some fries and sit by the window so we could go outside once the barriers were up. Before we knew it, it had been two hours and we saw that the barriers had been put up. It was 2:30pm now, so we went outside and claimed a spot pretty much opposite the main doors. We stood outside till 6:20ish until they started arriving and I'm not gonna over exaggerate how damn cold it was. Like, my whole body just went numb. It didn't help that it kept raining either and the wind messed up my hair. And because my body had gone so numb I was functioning SO slowly! Like, when people arrived etc my hands took ages trying to take a damn picture. Note for self: wear more layers and bring gloves to avoid shaking like crazy.

So, the first person to arrive was Emily Browning. She looked really simple but equally gorgeous. She went on the stage first and did an interview for us all to hear and then spoke to the press (there was TOO much press btw, I'll get to that later). Zack Snyder arrived next. He also did an interview on the stage and then came along to sign autographs first. When he came by us I was so damn star struck, all I could do was say "Hi Zack!" and he replied with "Hi!" lol. I wanted to tell him that I was going to see the movie in IMAX on Friday and that I loved 300 and Watchmen but yeah, as you can tell I didn't.

Emily came over next to sign autographs. When all the stars came over btw, except Vanessa, people were so calm! Everyone could get an autograph and a picture, it wasn't rushed. I didn't ask for a picture though, I would've dropped my camera cos' my hands were too numb :/ Emily was a little overwhelmed I think though, even though there actually wasn't a big crowd. She kept breathing in and out quickly as if she may panic, it was strange. But she was nice, so yeah.

Abbie Cornish then arrived and she went on stage, did an interview and then did some press interviews. The next person who signed autographs was this random British guy. Like literally, NO one knew who he was! So when he came over, Roma had a mini conversation with him, I said thanks for the autograph and he was like "Absolute pleasure". Then when I got home later I googled him and felt like such an idiot for not knowing who he was! It was Henry Cavill! He's in Stardust and he's going to be Clark Kent in the Superman movie! He was reallyyyyyy hot btw. Yum. Jena Malone and Jamie Chung arrived after that, did separate interviews and then press interviews. Then Carla Gugino did the same and so did Oscar Isaac. Then Vanessa Hudgens arrived last because she was the most anticipated. It was annoying though because everyone wanted a piece of her so she was going to one place to the

next so she hardly got to spend any time with the fans.

So, because they'd all arrived and no one had gone inside yet, they all took the opportunity to pose together on the stage and then in front of the paparazzi at the front. It was really cute when Vanessa walked off the stage towards the front for more group photos because she gave us a twirl <3 So cute :) Jena and Jamie ran over to the fans to sign a few autographs hurridley because they were meant to be at the front. Roma and my little sister got an autograph of Jena. They both promised to come back, but didn't. So I never got anything from Jena and Jamie.

After their group photos Oscar Isaac signed like no autographs (I never got one) and then he did some press interviews and then headed inside. It was the same with Carla Gugino.

Then, Abbie Cornish came around and signed autographs for everyone. I told her that I loved her dress and she looked up and said thanks :) I don't think she would say the same though, her straps kept falling down at the sides so her publicists kept trying to put it into place. It wasn't pinned properly. During this, Vanessa was on the stage doing an interview but I never heard much because I was too focused on Abbie coming around.

Awhile later we spotted Gina (Vanessa's mum) quite far away but we waved with three more people and called her name. We saw her laugh and take out her camera to take a picture of us <3 She's so cute!

Then, around 7:15ish Vanessa was the only one still left outside because of the amount of press that wanted to talk to her. There was soooo much press there, it was insane.

Now here was a shocking part: this lady walks up to me, asks how many people I was with, I point to my two sisters and she just went silent. Me and Roma were like wtf, and started laughing. All of a sudden she goes "Do you want to come inside?" And I was like WHAT? Roma thought she meant to meet celebrities but the lady said, "No, to come and see the film!" I then finally responded saying "Nooo! We have a train home in an hour, we can't come!" I was so sad about it! I can't believe she came up to us and asked and we couldn't even come in! It sucked! People around us then started asking the lady if they could come in instead and she just ignored them and walked away!! :o The guys she was with looked over at me and shook their head and I did the same lol. As if that happened though, I was shocked.

Then, we saw Gina again talking to other people. When she walked away we called her name again, she pointed at us, ran over and engulfed me and Roma in a hug! <3 It was sooo cute! Me and Roma then got pictures with her, we said she was awesome and she was like "Take care guys! I love you all! A big fan!" <3 awwwww. You can actually see her run over at around 3:24 in this video: http://youtu.be/eF_aeMS8x18 Vanessa finally then came running over and it was CHAOS. We suddenly had people behind us going crazy. And yeah I went crazy. Like my heart just stopped beating and I just kept giving her compliment after compliment. I tried getting a picture with her but her publicist said she was running late and had to get inside. I then, in such a small voice said "Ohmygod I love you so much!" And she LOOKED up at me and was like "Aw!" I died. Literally. Then I told her I loved her new haircut and she was like "Thanks!" She kept looking back and smiling <3

Even though my encounter with Vanessa was rushed it literally made my life. The highlights of the night had to be Gina and Vanessa for sure. And the lady who was letting us go inside. The happiest people that came up to us had to be Vanessa and Gina. I still can't get over how cute Gina was. I totally wanna be like that at her age <3

So, this was my experience. I was going to post my videos and pictures I took in this post but my mum took the camera on a trip with her so I'm gonna have to post those in a separate post some time this weekend.

What do you think? :)

randybbby:

If you have ever escaped to a fantasy world to cope with real life problems or depression, or just have a vivid/over-active imagination in the first place you will enjoy this movie.

somethingfromthenight:

I'm going to see Sucker Punch tomorrow :)

I'm really excited, I don't even care about the bad reviews. In my mind there's no way it can disappoint! Awesome costumes, swords, guns, dragons, mental asylums and violence it's going to be great :)

pjums:

The movie's theme reminded me of Gothika. The conflict centers around who indeed are the real bad guys; but on different perspectives. In psychological terms, Gothika is more of Behavioral while Sucker Punch is Humanistic.

unleashed3:

Today is a rainy but a happy day!

So..

Sucker Punch freaking rocks! Yesterday afternoon after class I went to my friend's and we were supposed to work on a group presentation and then I was supposed to go home, but instead we all went to eat at a restaurant, went to drink at a friend's and then went to see Sucker Punch, which was AWESOME. I mean, no valuable plot or dialogues, but the soundtracks and fight scenes are just awesome.

I'm 21 today, and I feel damn old -_-

I'm eating at some friends who cook veeery well tonight and can't wait.

Prom (sort of, the uni kind) tomorrow evening, so excited (plus, it's gonna be FRIDAY FRIDAY FRIDAY WE SO EXCITED)

whatthefdidyousay:

the more I think about Sucker Punch, the more I like it.

I'm so surprised that this movie actually is dragging around so many questions inside my mind. What was supposed to be a mindless-action-flick, it has slowly become a well written paragraph. And from that paragraph, the more I think about it the more of what seemed to be a paper-thin story actually becomes a well thought out plot.

Maybe I should be locked up in Lennox House for the Mentally Insane.

Anyway, before I really lose my mind I will try to work out the story a little because it does feel mind-boggling. What's reality? That's all I can ask right now. First of all let me point out something I noticed after some heavy thinking and few shots of Johnny Walker. Baby Doll is not the main character, I mean sure she is but if you think about Sweet Pea even said near the begging of the movie that she is the star of the show (talking about the theater...or was she?)

You see it's hard for me to prove any of my crazy ideas just yet, I will have to see Sucker Punch once more (at least) but it is slowly coming to me that the film is far more intelligent than I ever thought it would. You see, I feel like my mind-set was on "mind-less-action film" and that's all I saw but looking back at it now, I feel like I

missed the actual story.
But what is reality in Sucker Punch?

thestealthblogger:

I'm glum and I blame Sucker Punch

So I saw this tonight. Who wouldn't love a movie that included robot samurai, zombie soldiers, fire-breathing dragons, Don Draper and a sexy Russian chick who looked like a younger, hotter Sarah Palin (pictured!) you might ask?

Well me for one. I actually liked it a lot until the last 15 minutes or so. I'm not going to spoil it but it got really deep and really depressing at the very end. It was enough to put me in a dark and fatalist funk as I left the theater.

Maybe it's because right now it seems like the real world is going to pot in an almost biblical sort of way. Between earthquakes and tsunamis and nuclear disasters and wars and civil wars and crazy dictators and recessions and gas prices and airport body scans and Tumblr outages and cobra zoo escapes and Rebecca Black...I don't want to deal with horrible, depressing shit in my entertainment right now. I need escapism in my movies, and by that I mean rakish heroes, comical villains, beautiful women, CGI battles, wisecracking sidekicks and above all else, happy endings dammit.

rose-phantom:

"This isn't the imagination of a young girl; it's the fantasy of a 14-year-old boy steeped in kung fu, Call of Duty and online porn."

— Spot-on review on Sucker Punch from "Rotten Tomatoes"

icapturedthecastle:

A history of the Lobotomy

"If you thought that scene in Sucker Punch where the doctor gave lobotomies with an ice pick was artistic exaggeration - well, it wasn't. That's exactly how Walter Freeman, a popularizer of lobotomies in the 1940s, performed thousands of operations.

In the mid-twentieth century, the lobotomy was such a popular "cure" for mental illness that Freeman's former research partner António Egas Moniz was awarded the 1949 Nobel Prize for Medicine for his role in perfecting the operation. Moniz and Freeman had a falling out after Freeman started using an ice pick-shaped instrument to perform up to 25 lobotomies a day, without anaesthesia, while reporters looked on. Freeman's crazy antics didn't scare off potential patients, though: John F. Kennedy's sister Rosemary got a lobotomy from Freeman, which left her a vegetable for the rest of her life. And she was one of many people whose "cure" was more like zombification than freedom from mental anguish."

enchantedfuture:

Last weekend, I was talking to this guy Scotty about Sucker Punch. He said it's totally geared toward guys, so I was expected simply violence and scantily clad women. I was very surprised to find it was something more interesting. The trailers are all very ambiguous and misleading. The story is about a girl who, after trying to defend herself, ends up in an asylum and uses another world (a brothel—which makes for a very interesting metaphor) as a coping mechanism (I don't want to give away much more detail than that). So here we're talking about women who are being lusted after and used by men, made to believe they were being controlled, when all along they were the ones with the power. It was really intriguing.

While searching for this graphic, I found a tumblr post about how the movie isn't just about feminism—it's about how EVERYONE has the key to their own freedom. I thought that was a good point and wanted to make sure I put that out there as well. So basically what I'm saying is that Sucker Punch is not just a typical "guy" movie. If that's all that's keeping you from seeing it, I hope you've changed your mind now!

buildanewbeginning:

I don't think Sucker Punch should just be about Feminism.

It should be for anyone who wants to be free and get out of the traps that have been built in their own lives. Girls aren't the only ones in "distress" anymore. Guys can be as well. Everyone can be. The movie is about finding freedom in yourself. Anyone can be stuck, everyone holds their own key to get out.

I think we've come far enough to say stop fighting about who freedom belongs to. It belongs to everyone. Stop fighting and help each other escape the ones who are holding you back. Because in my opinion, if today's women keep accusing men of things men did 60 years ago, we can't move forward, and we'll all be stuck forever.

avaadore:

A (Feminist) Defense of Sucker Punch

It's no secret that I'm a fan of the movie Sucker Punch. And recently, I read a well-thought-out, feminist attack extolling the vices of the movie in Faux Feminism in Sucker Punch. I am grateful for her post because it's helped me to clarify my points, however, I think that Faux forgets that the brothel 'world' is an extended metaphor for the asylum.

If you would like a better taste than the trailers, you can see the first 5 minutes here (download - Mac users need VLC). The narrative is key. That being said, I agree with the tagline: You will be unprepared. Granted, the first read of that line is meant for the situations the protagonists are put in... yet the underlying theme is that you yourself will be unprepared.

I am not surprised at the backlash the movie is receiving. I think that as a culture, we are unprepared for the feminist points that Sucker Punch does make; I think that many of us who don't engage in third- and post-wave feminism will indeed decry it for its vices—and will be unprepared to see its virtues.

SPOILER WARNING. (Also very lengthy, analytical post.)

Read More →

<http://www.avaadore.com/post/4224470105/a-feminist-defense-of-sucker-punch>

sweetestporcelain:

Sucker Punch was amazing.

Lets cover some of the things it had that I fucking adore

Women

Powerful women

Women with thick accents

Skeezy men I don't love them, I love seeing them stabbed

Nazis

^they're also fucking zombie Nazis

Women in skimpy fucking clothes

Crying women

Women with guns

Dragons cried when the dragons died ;A;

Samurai

Mechs
Fuckin rad music
Bombs
Brothels
Insane asylums
Trippy inception dreams
That fucking dress at the end oh my god beautiful
That was one of the best movies I've ever seen.

chloehasalotoffeelings:

also i am a survivor for whom the movie was awful and skin crawly and i felt taken advantage of and like assault was turned into a gross titillating experience for bros to get off on. i am allowed that PERSONAL opinion, you are allowed yours and it would be disgusting for you to ask that i change mine because you felt different and vice versa. you threw an embarrassing tantrum, grow up and learn to live with people having different opinions than you.

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JUMP CUT

A REVIEW OF CONTEMPORARY MEDIA

Anonymous

i'm really sorry the movie made you feel bad. being triggered by movies sucks. the worst experience i ever had with that was with fight club, which is an extra pain in the ass because so many people really love that movie.

here's the thing. plenty of people tell me they love fight club and think it's a really great movie with a lot of meaning to it. then i say "it triggered the shit out of me, and i hate it for this reason." what i don't say is "that is a terrible movie with absolutely no redeeming value for anyone but creepy perverts. anything you got out of it exists only in your mind." i have a real problem with people denying my experience of reality, so i try not to do it to other people.

i don't want anybody to change their personal opinions, and i don't want anyone to expect me to change mine. but people ARE expecting me to change mine, or at least shaming me for having it. i don't want you to turn around and say "oh, i was wrong all along and actually it's fabulous!" any more than i want my vegetarian friends to go fry themselves up a pound of bacon each; it's none of my damn business. but if i'm eating a roast beef sandwich and a vegetarian friend gets louder and louder and more and more aggressive about how i am literally everything that is wrong with the world for eating my sandwich? then i might get a little angry.

i don't think responding to sady doyle's quick, sarcastic post with a quick, sarcastic post of my own counts as a tantrum. it's not the nicest thing i've ever done, but i had no idea she would even read it — she's never responded to any of my reblogs before. i thought a couple of my friends might laugh. instead, i got ripped into publicly by a big-name feminist blogger who then proceeded to flip out on tumblr and accuse me of psychological rape. and i'm the one who needs to grow up? nah.

jkrowlingismypatronus:

Sucker Punch?

I'm so conflicted about seeing this movie. I've been looking at fan reviews and stuff and it seems like a love it or hate it movie. People are hating on it because they say it doesn't have a plot and it disguises itself as a feminine empowerment film but really isn't. And then on the other side of the spectrum people love it because of its deep plot and how it's a "girl power!" type of movie. Can someone please give me their opinion? I'd appreciate it. :)

I don't know if I should see it.

blackalice:

Fabulous Review On The Misogyny Of Sucker Punch

Sucker Punch may have "looked" exciting & empowering on the surface, when I first saw it in theaters...but as I dig deep, look again, & read more & more about it, I start to see it for what it really is: A exploitative, misogynistic, de-empowering, faux-feminist film that dresses itself up to appear empowering.

The reviews I've been reading have been extremely helpful in helping me become more aware of seeing the actual truth behind films like Sucker Punch.

Here's one I recommend you all give a read:

<http://blog.moviefone.com/2011/03/28/faux-feminism-in-sucker-punch/>

vincentvangalang:

I just watched this with some friends at MOA. The music was good, the graphics and fight scenes were in-your-face, the costumes were cool and the acting was good. It was like Burlesque meets Inception or something. I liked the movie.

cleverwittystatement

It's more of a mind fuck than Inception. You wanna talk about going 'deeper', at least in Sucker punch I was in more confused about which reality was real. I hear people saying that they hated Sucker Punch but...why?

It has everything people want in movies:

- Asylum
- Secret whore houses
- Samurai- No, GIANT SAMURAI. No Rocketlaunching samurai- OMG MACHINE GUN SAMURAI. NOW THAT IS PROGRESS
- Dragonball Z-esque power ups
- Leper Nazi Post apocalyptic world
- MORDOR.
- Plot Twist

And even angels for all those believers out there.

It had one good quote though: "If you don't stand for something, you'll fall for anything."

Girl in a mental institution. Gunna get lobotomised. Dun wanna be lobotomized.

Inceptions herself into another reality where she's an orphan in a whore house. She doesn't wanna be in a whore house. When she dances it's appearntly motherfucking impressive because everyone's eyes jack off watching her. Total BAMF. Of course we never see these super sexy dances that were described as titillating since, when she dances, she inceptions herself into these super epic day dream sequences while her co-whore-t of courtesans steals shit that'll help them escape this whore house. Now our first daydream within a dream is in this Japanese temple thing with a guy who I'm pretty sure was a Vulcan in one of the Star Trek series. Then he gives her a sword and a gun and gives her a list a shit of stuff to get i.e. the stuff the other bitches are getting while she dances. Then this giant samurai comes out. The this other giant samurai with a fucking rocket launcher. Then one with a machine gun. NOW THAT'S PROGRESS JAPAN. She wins. She snaps out of her day dream everyone is fucking stoked. Second daydream within a dream; post apocalyptic Leper Nazi Germany vs France with robots and shit. Shit's fucking intense. Third dream within a dream is Mordor meets Masaf with dragons. ONE DOES NOT SIMPLY WALK INTO MORDOR but apparently you can fly over and drop into it. It even has orcs and Babydoll wrestles a fucking dragon and rips out his throat or something. Then mama dragon be pissed and I may have teared up a bit. Then SNAP BACK TO REALITY OH THERE GOES GRAVITY. BITCHFIIIIIIGGGHTTTT. Now the third time was when I realized 'oh shit it's all the same world' yet they all are hard to connect. The third dream lakes place in the Tron world, all off the grid of course, with Enterprise like hallways and droids with an awesome 'kill all humans' program that shames the Trade Federation. Back to the dream within a dream again, 3 bitches die, 2 left make a big escape from the brothel house...place. THEN O SHIT LOBOTOMY and something happens...and...idk if he was gunna rape her or what...then back to the girl who escaped and she gets away and baaaaawwwwwwww.

Ah dunno I thought it was okay. It had everything you need for a movie why bomb it?

thehiddenclaire:

There's something familiar about Sucker Punch that I can't put a finger onto. And today, it struck me: it's a teenage version of Brazil. From the fantasy scenes to the depressing, dark ends of Sam and Babydoll. Even the color schemes were similar. Because Terry G. is my homeboy.

thecuckooclock:

30 Day Film Challenge

Day 12 - A Film By Your Least Favorite Director - Sucker Punch Sorry guys, I hate to have to repeat myself but if there's one director that I HATE HATE HATE HATE HATE, it's Zack-Fucking-Snyder. It's not just that he makes completely stupid action movies, that's something I can forgive, Michael Bay does that, Brett Ratner does that, it's the pretentious bullshit attitude he has to go with it. It's that he wants to try and pretend he's socially or politically relevant, that he'll make a film that is nothing but an exploitation flick and try and pretend that it's about female empowerment and somehow fighting Hollywood convention of how women are presented in film. I mean christ, dude, it's bad enough that your film is nothing but titillation fare but you're gonna try and pass it off as being about empowerment? Fine, then I call a spade a spade, your film is about rape, Zack. It's a 2 and a half hour film about the repeated raping of women who look like they're in High School. The only strength portrayed is "battered-wife strength", in that Zack calls his protagonists strong because of the beating they're willing to withstand. I can go on and on and pick out the Iraq metaphor of 300, or the battling ideologies presented in Watchmen where Snyder's disproportionately writes a love letter to libertarianism and fascism. The really repugnant homophobia in 300, the fact that women are reduced to props in most of his films, the fact that he needlessly piles the blood and gore on, even when it comes to the film's detriment.

I mean, did he read Watchmen? He got that it was supposed to be about normal human beings right? Deeply flawed, scarred, emotionally unstable but real human beings, right? So why are they able to rip arms right the fuck off and suddenly bust out kung-fu moves to take down a room of 20 guys? These were people who'd often get their ass kicked a great deal, but hey I guess "looking cool" matters more than breaking the film's realism and completely changing how the characters are portrayed. But in short, fuck this guy.

kaegabrielle:

I still

Have shivers from seeing Sucker Punch. It was like an hour and a half long girl-gasm and it blew my mind the more I think about it. It was like Girl Interrupted meets A Little Princess meets some crazy dark twisted fantasy. UNF.

quesarah-sarah:

I'm so sick of these 'slutty costume' arguments some feminists have against Sucker Punch.

Slut shaming again? Really?

When are you people going to start to understand that girls can wear what they want? It doesn't matter if you deem it 'too provocative'. You can think that all you want, I admittedly see some younger girls walking around and think their outfit may not be appropriate but you know what? That's not who they are as a person, and it's

none of my fucking business.

Being critical of the clothes women wear is another form of body policing. It's just another "10 ways to lose 10 pounds!". Women are valid no matter what they're wearing. You could put an Ivy Leaguer in a 'slutty' outfit and have her walk down Times Square and people would assume things about her, things that are probably incorrect. Conversely, you could put a stripper (I'm not saying anything negative about stripping... I'm just talking about societal norms) and put in her a nice, modest, 19 Kids and Counting approved outfit, and no one would think twice.

ALSO...

The argument about it being an "Old mans wet dream".

Me taking a shit could be an old mans wet dream just as much as me kicking ass in a hot outfit could be.

It's not stoping me from doing either.

My actions are not guided by a mans desires.

severability:

What really pisses me off about this Sucker Punch discussion

is that everyone who dislikes it are just plain hurtful and dismissive, like sexual assault survivors don't matter. Downright fucking condescending, like their opinions is the correct opinion. That fucking pisses me off.

sevenpoints:

Re: Sucker Punch

I'm still parsing what I think about that movie, but I do want to say this: I've seen several reviews criticizing it for overly sexualizing the girls' costumes, with the short skirts and stockings and corsets and all.

The thing is that I, personally, would dress like that all the time if I didn't have to worry about what other people (mainly straight men and women who hate women) might do or say when they see me.

I look at my naked body at least once a day, usually when I've just gotten out of the shower at night. I love my body. I like to flaunt it. I love my long legs and long arms and my perky little B cups. I just hate that wearing shorts and tight tops means putting up with leches and bitches who hate me on sight, even if they like what they see.

In the movie, yes, the girls wear skimpy clothes, but there are significant meanings to the costumes. In the real world, they're in short solid dresses. In the brothel, they're in leotards, corsets and stockings. Both of those are the worlds controlled by men. In the war zone, however, they're in black and they look fucking badass. Baby Doll's sailor outfit shows off her abs. Everyone has guns and knives and swords strapped everywhere. I think it's wrong to assume that, given the choice, all women would wear loose, comfortable clothes with high necklines and low hems. Some of us like to look hot, and we like to do it for ourselves, not for anyone else.

roxanneritchi:

Have you seen "Sucker Punch"? If so, what are your opinions on it?

littlewhiskeygirl

I haven't, but I'd like to! What I'm expecting: an action movie deconstructing rape culture, focused largely if not solely on women and their relationships with other women, with some major problematic elements! I'm reserving all other comments until I've seen it. :)

lovelykaren:

On Saturday Edward & I went to go the movies, we watched 'Sucker Punch'. It was pretty awesome I especially loved the soundtrack! We went to Edward's Cinemas in Long Beach which is our favorite theater to go to (it's not because my hubby's name is also Edward lol) But we love it cause it's gorgeous. There's a lot of stores & a lot of nice places to dine at, also there's a nice fire place to sit at which is so romantic. Can't wait to go next weekend again!

P.s- Sorry about the poor picture quality but it was kinda chili so I took the pictures fast lol.

myclevertitle:

So here's the synopsis of "Sucker Punch"

This blond girl's step dad kills her sister and blames it on the girl, he brings her to a mental hospital where she is to get a lobotomy so she can't tell her side of the story. But the mental institution turns into a strip club that a church sends orphaned girls too, classy right? And in order for her to escape, with the help of some new friends, she needs to find a couple objects to get out. To get these objects Babydoll, the blond girl, dances to distract people, although when she dances all the girls go on a mission in some alternate universe. And by the end everything turns back into a mental hospital and only one girl escapes while Babydoll gets the lobotomy.

Overall, it's a violent treasure-hunt that these girls do in underwear. And then they try to throw in some metaphorical bullshit that could have a deeper meaning but I don't care enough to look into it.

So I'm sure any guy would enjoy it, while girls would probably just laugh. But I'm not going to lie, it kind of made me wanna be a bad ass kick boxer or something, idk...

harrumph:

FUCK SUCKER PUNCH. FUCK IT RIGHT IN THE ASS WITHOUT LUBE.

You know, everytime I have a fucking psychotic break and lose my shit, the thing I fantasize about to mentally escape the hellishness of being essentially imprisoned is WORKING IN A FUCKING BROTHEL. I MEAN, I ALWAYS DREAM ABOUT FUCKING PUTTING ON SOME COSPLAY SHIT AND SERVICING MEN WHEN I HAVE REALLY LOST MY SHIT AND HATE THE THINGS GOING ON AROUND ME.

What? Doesn't everyone?

Oh, and fuck Hollywood, too. Same rules apply, but maybe add in spikes.

mmmzombies:

Sucker Punch

Having thought on it for a bit, I've decided that my final decision on whether or not I'll recommend Sucker Punch is this—

By all means rent it or something once it comes out. It's visually beautiful and definitely entertaining.

I wouldn't recommend seeing it in theaters because you'd be shelling out eight dollars for what I think is maybe a four dollar movie. (However, it should be seen on a big screen and with surround sound.)

If it was aiming for female empowerment, it missed. However, I don't think it was any more offensive to women than the average Hollywood film. (Not that that's saying much.)

It would've been a blast to do storyboards for, that's for sure.

If you're expecting Emily Browning (or any of them) to act, lower your expectations.

All she really does is flash her panties while fighting and look sad/helpless/hurt. I think if I had to define what the “message” of the film was, it would be something along the lines of women can only affect their surroundings/change their situation by using their sexuality on the men who control them. So don’t go to this movie for real life lessons.

I also learned to never write a check with your mouth that you can’t cash with your ass.

srslywonder:

sweet pea and rocket is JUST like me and my older sister she is so protective of me just like sweet pea is and im always getting into trouble just like rocket made me cryyyyyy

vml:

Rant: How to Piss Off Female Audiences at a SUCKER PUNCH Screening

WARNING: This post contains spoilers.

I saw the movie Sucker Punch at a test screening in October. I LOVED IT! To me, it had everything both horny boys and girls would love. Boys would like it for the sexy girls kicking serious ass in big fight scenes. Girls would love it for the badass girls kicking serious ass in big fight scenes and the Jon Hamm sex scene near the end. That last part had me swooning for Hamm. I even wrote it down on my questionnaire card after the screening, describing it as my favorite scene out of the entire movie. After the screening, I really wanted to brag about the exciting movie that will be pleasuring audiences in April. Unfortunately, I only told a handful of people about the experience because, prior to the screening, I had to sign a contract saying I wasn’t allowed to talk about it or else the studio would sue me for millions. (Seriously.) Now that the movie is finally out, I can talk about it!

For every person I spoke to who loved the movie, I gushed about Jon Hamm. I never got any responses back. You see, since I already saw the movie, I haven’t seen it since its release last weekend. Yet, I was originally wanting to see it again once it had officially came out, and I had been curious to see if any scenes were deleted or added. Just today, I found out that the scene I loved the most has been deleted.

I got very disappointed and angry. I want to throw a fit, scream, and tell fangirls what they had missed.

So here’s the scene that you Sucker Punch-ers missed: After letting Sweet Pea escape, Baby Doll (Emily Browning) gets captured, gets knocked out, and wakes up in a bedroom with the suave High Roller (Jon Hamm). With charismatic, affectionate smooth-talk, he tells her that he’s not out to harm her and is really looking for “inner truth.” He asks her to stay with him but promises to give her freedom from the institution/brothel. While this is happening, Baby Doll becomes seduced and gains his trust. She moves closer to him and unbuttons his shirt. He lays her down and gives her a kiss. Then the scene cuts back to reality, where the Doctor (Hamm) lobotomizes Baby Doll. He gets weirded out, telling Dr. Gorski that Baby Doll looked as if she wanted him to lobotomize her.

So why did this scene get deleted from the final print? Here’s what Emily Browning said regarding the scene:

“I think that it’s great for this young girl to actually take control of her own sexuality. Well, the MPAA doesn’t like that. They don’t think a girl should ever be in control of her own sexuality because they’re from the Stone Age. I don’t know what the fuck is going on and I will openly criticize it, happily. So essentially, they got [director] Zack [Snyder] to edit the scene and make it look less like she’s into it. And Zack said he

edited it down to the point where it looked like he was taking advantage of her. That's the only way he could get a PG-13 [rating] and he said, 'I don't want to send that message.' So they cut the scene!"

I blame the MPAA for their notion that its inappropriate to show a girl taking control of her sexuality. (Similarly, Ashton Kutcher argued about the same thing while promoting No Strings Attached this year.) In the case of Sucker Punch, it would have been a very appropriate and empowering scene since the female characters keep getting threaten by a misogynistic villain throughout the movie.

The issue about showing female sexuality on screen isn't new. For a long time, there's been a double-standard about it. It might be okay to show male sexuality in American movies, but showing female sexuality is considered pornographic and forbidden to general audiences. That's complete sexism to me. Just forcing Sucker Punch's sex scene to be deleted was sexism. I might as well say that depriving female audiences from watching it was sexism too. This is just stupid.

So don't be saying that seeing girls in skimpy outfits and performing in some brothel is sexist. The real sexism was editing out a sex scene.

<http://www.tumblr.com/tagged/sucker-punch?before=1301337392>

[Lost the author on this one—CK]

Here's my attempt at making myself feel better about the ending to Sucker Punch (spoilers ahoy):

In the 3rd fantasy level (the one where they're badasses with guns) when Rocket stays behind on the train and the bomb explodes she shields herself from the explosion with the body of one of the robots they killed. She jumps into the water and saves herself. In the 2nd fantasy (where they're dancers/prostitutes) when Rocket is stabbed by the cook with a butcher knife, the knife misses her vital organs by centimeters and when she "dies" she only passes out and wakes up later in intensive care in a hospital. She escapes from the hospital and goes home to her family (later Sweet Pea follows)

In the 2nd fantasy level (where they're all dancers/prostitutes) when Blue shoots Amber in the head he doesn't kill her. He only kicks her back to the 1st fantasy kind of like Inception. When you die you just wake up. She wakes up in the 1st level (the mental asylum). When Blue shoots Blondie in the head in the 2nd level he does the same thing. She gets kicked back to the first level with Amber.

(In the movie Sweet Pea escapes when Baby Doll gives herself up as a distraction to the guards.) Sweet Pea goes home and Rocket is there too and they live happily ever after. When Baby Doll is in the chair getting ready to be lobotomized the doctor doing the procedure misses the target by a millimeter. It doesn't work but Baby plays along like she's been lobotomized. She meets back up with Amber and Blondie. (In the movie Blue is taken to jail and I assume Dr./Madame Gorski takes over.)

Dr./Madame Gorski gives them their freedom because Blue was corrupt by putting people in the asylum that shouldn't have been there.

THE(better)END!

ahhh much better. now I can sleep peacefully.

jkrowlingismypatronus:

This is going to sound pathetic.

But I was listening to the Sucker Punch soundtrack the other day and "Where is my Mind?" was playing and I realized *SPOILER*...around the 3 minute mark is when Babydoll sacrifices herself and I nearly cried. I almost started crying my eyes out

while I was driving, listening to it. Crying. Ugh this soundtrack. It's so amazing.

attempting happiness:

Today was a pretty good day, though I didn't do any exercise :/ I ate pretty healthily. I went to the cinema this evening, saw Sucker Punch. Very good film, I loved it :) Though I found it a bit confusing. I took a box of fruit salad to the cinema, whereas just a week ago I would have bought a bag of cookies and eaten them all. It felt good not doing that tonight.

However I did eat too much dinner, I felt full halfway through, but I kept eating it anyway, I think it was because I was in front of the TV, I was a little distracted, I wasn't really paying attention to my eating, I think I was also too lazy and distracted to get up and put the rest of my meal in the fridge. But that's okay, I will be weary of that now. I will be eating my food up at the table from now on I think.

cleverwittystatement

A summary of the movie Sucker Punch

It's more of a mind fuck than Inception. You wanna talk about going 'deeper', at least in Sucker punch I was in more confused about which reality was real. I hear people saying that they hated Sucker Punch but...why?

It has everything people want in movies:

- Asylum
- Secret whore houses
- Samurai- No, GIANT SAMURAI. No Rocketlaunching samurai- OMG MACHINE GUN SAMURAI. NOW THAT IS PROGRESS
- Dragonball Z-esque power ups
- Leper Nazi Post apocalyptic world
- MORDOR.
- Plot Twist

And even angels for all those believers out there.

It had one good quote though: "If you don't stand for something, you'll fall for anything."

Girl in a mental institution. Gunna get lobotomised. Dun wanna be lobotomized. Inceptions herself into another reality where she's an orphan in a whore house. She doesn't wanna be in a whore house. When she dances it's apparently motherfucking impressive because everyone's eyes jack off watching her. Total BAMF. Of course we never see these super sexy dances that were described as titillating since, when she dances, she inceptions herself into these super epic day dream sequences while her co-whore-t of courtesans steals shit that'll help them escape this whore house. Now our first daydream within a dream is in this Japanese temple thing with a guy who I'm pretty sure was a Vulcan in one of the Star Trek series. Then he gives her a sword and a gun and gives her a list a shit of stuff to get i.e. the stuff the other bitches are getting while she dances. Then this giant samurai comes out. The this other giant samurai with a fucking rocket launcher. Then one with a machine gun. NOW THAT'S PROGRESS JAPAN. She wins. She snaps out of her day dream everyone is fucking stoked. Second daydream within a dream; post apocalyptic Leper Nazi Germany vs France with robots and shit. Shit's fucking intense. Third dream within a dream is Mordor meets Masaf with dragons. ONE DOES NOT SIMPLY WALK INTO MORDOR but apparently you can fly over and drop into it. It even has orcs and

Babydoll wrestles a fucking dragon and rips out his throat or something. Then mama dragon be pissed and I may have teared up a bit. Then SNAP BACK TO REALITY OH THERE GOES GRAVITY. BITCHFIIIIIGGGHTTTT. Now the third time was when I realized 'oh shit it's all the same world' yet they all are hard to connect. The third dream takes place in the Tron world, all off the grid of course, with Enterprise like hallways and droids with an awesome 'kill all humans' program that shames the Trade Federation. Back to the dream within a dream again, 3 bitches die, 2 left make a big escape from the brothel house...place. THEN O SHIT LOBOTOMY and something happens...and...idk if he was gunna rape her or what...then back to the girl who escaped and she gets away and baaaaawwwwwwww.

Ah dunno I thought it was okay. It had everything you need for a movie why bomb it?

steampunk-goes-blond:

that awkward moment when you go through the sucker punch tag and nearly die because reading other people's theories hurts your head because you don't want to start an inception war in your head over what was the "real" ending of sucker punch. Let's just say they were all dreaming and are really in the lesbians with each other and are all over.

mordred:

Today will be great.

I'm going to the cinema with best friend. We will watch Sucker Punch (*click*). It has some bad reviews but I like the trailer and the stuff I read about it. So I hope it will be good. Prior to that I will buy the Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows 1 DVD (it costs only 7 pounds).

So I guess it will be a nice afternoon/evening.

The only bad thing is that I got my period but I don't have any cramps which is good.

DVD Release

The DVD release in late June, 3 months after the theatrical release, created a new opportunity for discussion of the film. In particular, the Blu-Ray release included about 18 minutes that had been cut to get the PG-13 rating for the theatrical. I'd actually expected a lot more discussion than there was. One change was that because people were watching the film at home, there were a lot of simple short "status update" postings: e.g., "I'm watching Sucker Punch," and/or "I don't understand _____. Can someone explain it?"

rebeanella:

this movie was amazing. i really liked it, it was intriguing all the way through. tho i like the whole story inside a story type thing...and i liked the mixing of genres.

i like my swords, knives and guns. ^__^

I'm a practical woman. lol

princessreezie:

YAAY BIRTHDAY PRESENT! :D

thedoktahandrees

I think it's an awesome movie! I've seen it before, and each time I watch it I find

something new, some little detail that helps explain the bigger picture (much like Inception only with more action). I've actually made a big ranty review which I will post when I find the time to write it up, but I definitely suggest seeing it! I thought it was totally bad ass (:

eternal987:

Sucker Punch revisited

I've been thinking back on it for a while today and I want to take back all my negative comments I posted in the other Sucker Punch post. I didn't talk too badly about it but I mentioned the story might have been a little simple-minded, which I now renege on that opinion. I don't think the story was simple at all. I think it was very well constructed that took us on a fantastical ride. I was too quick to judge. I apologize... to no one really. It felt right though. I'll probably go buy it tomorrow and watch it again.

jordan1richards:

Sucker Punch Redux... I forgive you Zakk Synder

So the blu ray release of Sucker Punch just dropped on store shelves and for some reason I felt compelled to pick it up. I had read that the 17 minutes greatly improve the movie and I have to say that it's not bad on the small screen. It turns out that Sucker Punch was written and edited as an R rated film but the studio didn't want it that so they tinkered and the movie I truly hated came out in March. This Director's Cut shows us the R rated movie we should've seen in the first place. The action scenes hit harder and offer some great payoffs (that world war 2 scene is still the centerpiece of this flick). There's also an added musical number and a Jon Hamm sex scene so it's way better. I think this version is worth a look (if not just fast forward to the fighting.)

10 Days of Sucker Punch Challenge | Day 01 : Favorite Main Role Girl

Sweet Pea: I'm the star of the show, remember?

I'm not sure why I love Sweet Pea so much, and it was really hard for me to decide between her and Blondie. I love all the girls almost equally, but these two are the ones I love just a tiny bit more (and Sweet Pea just a tiny bit more than Blondie). There's just something about Sweet Pea, I love how she's really closed herself off to the world and her whole life is really just about protecting Rocket and making sure Rocket is happy. It's a bit of an unhealthy relationship, I think, but Sweet Pea always just gives and gives and gives and bottles up her emotions and hardens herself — and it isn't just Rocket she protects, but all the girls, really. There's something so intriguing about that and in ways, it's almost admirable.

heathicorn

OMG HEATH.

Have you seen Sucker Punch? Because I saw you posted that one graphic and I was like EEEEEEEEEEEEE because I LOVE that movie but most critics gave it horrible, misunderstood reviews and I was just wondering what you thought about it. I'd love to hear what you have to say about it because I find that you have very well-educated opinions, esp. about things like feminism/sexual abuse; a lot of critics and feminists were angry about the portrayal of women but I am a raging sex-positive feminist and I found the film to be extremely feminist, from my perspective at least, so when I saw those reviews I was like HUH? NO.

So yeah, sorry to ramble, basically I am just wondering if you saw it and what you

thought about it. :)

Anonymous

I have! I actually just saw it for the first time yesterday, and I thoroughly enjoyed it! I was really depressed at the end, actually, because I had NO IDEA that was how it was going to turn out (a bucket for my creys all my girls! D:). I honestly haven't read a single review about the film so my thoughts are probably dumb, but I honestly see it as a very female-positive piece. I can understand that there are problems with it, and it's not perfect, but I think there's a lot of good to be found in Sucker Punch. Now, of course they're in horrible situations, abused and subjected to unforgivable things, and perhaps critics will argue that it's wrong that for Babydoll to be effective/able to exercise any agency she must utilize her body to elicit the male gaze/please men. I sort of saw it as Babydoll reclaiming her sexuality, her body, exploring a freedom within herself and understanding that her body is her sanctuary, her weapon, as they describe it. It's a film about women who have been horrifically wronged taking up arms to not only defend themselves, but each other—and to me, that's where the positivity lies. We see these women protecting each other, sacrificing themselves for each other; the figures of authority are male, the villains are male (with the exception of the 'old wise man') and these are women who rely only on other women to free themselves. They put their faith and their fates in each other's hands. I mean, yes, there are problems with the film because it's overtly sexual, it's all about these women and their bodies and what is done to them, but it's also about what they choose to do about it. It's fighting back. It's saying "I'm not going to let this happen to me, I want to save myself"; it's not women looking to men to help them, it's women looking to women to help each other. To me, that's the part that I was happy about, the message I took away. Freedom is taking a stand, not necessarily winning. It's fighting for yourself, and for the people you love.

sssurvive:

I don't think people understand

the strength of my desire to own the Sucker Punch movie on blu-ray/dvd.

God, I really need my license. It would be nice if I had a car or something so that I can, you know, get around. Whatever. Left to my own devices once more...~

Life is great, summer is great<3

rossbirks:

So I'm finally watching Sucker Punch

And yeah the soundtrack is actually really fantastic. The rest of the movie is kind of like looking into the brain of a 15 year old boy where loads of attractive women wear revealing costumes and wield swords and guns while they fight big samurais, robots and bad nazi bastards. It's as if Snyder wrote it in his teens and thought "Oh yeah baby this movie is gonna be the coolest shiznit!!" To be honest I'm really enjoying it, even if there is quite a bit to be desired in terms of narrative. It's also the Extended Cut so I don't know if that has much to do with it as the Theatrical got royally shit on by everyone.

themarmaladegirl:

I have really mixed feelings about Sucker Punch.

I'm awed by the visuals and the soundtrack and Jena Malone and Abbie Cornish, and a little appreciative of the 'you have the weapons now go fight gurrlllll' message.

But at the same time I'm like WHAT THE FUQ DID I JUST WATCH?

I get that women have one thing that can weaken men: their sexuality. I'm not against women who use their sexuality to get what they want (sometimes I think it's hawt) but the way it is portrayed in the movie just turns me off. Really - dancing and escaping into a kickass fight scene and then the dance is up - WHUT. At least have the decency to show how good a dancer she is till everyone just about overreacts and hugs her and stuff? Maybe it's just me.

And, it's hard to relate to Babydoll. She's just a porcelain doll to me. I get it that she's a tragic character and she's made a lot of sacrifices, but nothing of her true personality gets to me. To me she's like 'meh okay I'mma get out of here', whereas with Sweet Pea and Rocket - we get their motivations (and their protective sisterly bond is just sweetness and tragic). Emily Browning tried her best, but I think it's the poor writing in the end. Don't even get me started on Amber and Blondie. Why were they even there seriously (other than to look badass).

But you know what would have made the movie more fun and acceptable (in my books)?

LET ALL THE FIGHT SCENES BE A REALITY. Let kicking dragon and demon samurai and robot and Nazi butt be their actual profession. Let them be a crack team of badass women who kick butt during the day and seduce men at night. NOT BECAUSE THEY HAVE TO BUT BECAUSE THEY CAN. I'm totally fine with that. Don't try to slide in some weak female empowerment message amidst a heap of male masochism, is all I'm saying.

chillbox:

I'm watching Sucker Punch right now.

And I must say I'm not impressed.

Okay, the outfits are cool, yes. The steampunk themes are awesome, fuck yes. And they even played a song by Bjork. But the movie's not even that great. I don't get why people are so impressed by it. I thought the trailer was cool, but that's about it.

There's like all this action and I don't even know why. Like, the fuck is happening? Seriously.

Whut.

rossbirks:

#217 Sucker Punch (2011) Dir. Zack Snyder

God this blog is becoming a "Ross defends universally despised movies" blog. But despite all the bad reception....I actually really enjoyed Sucker Punch. I'm not calling it a great movie by any means but as an exercise in style and dream logic it's a pretty interesting ride. It's like a fatty pop-culture sandwich consisting of video games, anime, comic books, and popular music. The music especially I really loved. All the hooplah about "it's sexist, it exploits women" is pretty unjustified in my opinion. I get why people would think that, the film does play like a teenage boy's wet dream but I honestly don't think Snyder's intention was to degrade women in any way, quite the opposite in fact. I think he wanted to make a cool action movie about a group of badass chicks and no matter how inane the film may be, I do believe Snyder cares about his characters. It's just like a female version of 300. If a woman made that movie would people be calling it sexist? I don't think so. Warner Bros. gave the world's biggest geek millions of dollars to live out his fantasy and the bad reception has ensured that there will never be another movie like this made ever again, which is probably for the best, but I'm glad somebody made it at least once.

planets-bend-between-us:

Watching Sucker Punch with no previous knowledge of it going in. And... what is this? Some guy's wet dream? A live action not! Japanese anime with hot girls, skimpy outfits, and eye makeup that resembles hentai?
I'm so confused right now.
The CGI is cool, but... every inch of my feminist isn't sure whether to be enraged or uncomfortable.

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Notes

1. Earlier: “Webisodic mock vlogs: HoShows as commercial entertainment new media,”

<http://www.ejumpcut.org/archive/jc50.2008/WeHoGirls/index.html>

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2. I say “apparent” because as we all know, or should know, from the outside you don’t really know the identity of someone who posted something.

3. The phrase itself is well-worn, but youngsters may not have heard it before. Example: excellent blues song by LA bluesman Sonny Green, "Don't write a check with your mouth" (Hill/United Artists, 1972-73). You can hear it on YouTube; ignore the awful video.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eoVCd5m3S2k>

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